1	2	3
140.	National Projects Construction Corpn. Ltd.	48.08
141.	Electronics Corpn. of India Ltd.	52.95
142.	Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	3.52
143.	Chennai Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	3.30
	TOTAL:	**5960.16**

Improving the production performance of ailing PSUs

832. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to improve the production performance of ailing public sector units and make them profitable before putting them up for sale;

(b) if so, the details of such ailing PSUs which will be made profitable during the current financial year;

(c) the total investment to be made in such PSUs; and

(d) the target set for the improvement in the production performance of sick PSUs in the current plan period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJI BHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) The Government's policy towards public sector as enunciated in the Budget Speech for the year 2000-01 is to:

— Restructure and revive potentially viable PSUs
— Close down PSUs which can not be revived
— Bring down Government equity in all non-strategic PSUs to 26% or lower, if necessary; and
— Fully protect the interests of worker

Sick PSUs are referred under SICA to BIFR—a quasi-judicial body. Presently, 66 PSUs are under reference to BIFR. Since rehabilitation is undertaken after the BIFR sanctions a revival package, it is difficult to set a target.

VRS in PSUs

833. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Public Sector Undertakings are planning a VRS for its workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the basic guidelines followed for introducing VRS; and

(d) the total amount of outflow of services due to implementation of the VRS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJI BHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) Manpower rationalisation in PSUs through VRS depends on the extent of surplus manpower in CPSUs in relation to production activities of the enterprises. VRS is voluntary in nature based upon the option of individual employees and its acceptance by the management of the CPSUs. Such manpower rationalisation is a continuous process. As per available information during 2000-01, 35588 employees opted for VRS from Central PSUs and Rs. 1456 crores approx. were paid by way of VRS compensation. The basic guidelines followed for introducing VRS during this year is as per guidelines dated 5.5.2000 (copy enclosed as Statement).